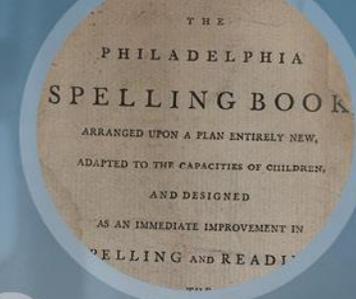


**Copyright** office  
PRESENTS

# Celebrating **150 YEARS OF CREATIVITY**

George Thuronyi  
*U.S. Copyright Office*

1870



2020

**UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE** | **CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY for 150  
YEARS**



1789

## Constitution of United States

“Promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors. . . the exclusive Right to their respective Writings.”

Protects original works of authorship fixed in tangible form.



all the duties pertaining to copyrights required by law.

SEC. 110. *And be it further enacted*, That the clerk of each of the district courts of the United States shall transmit forthwith to the librarian of Congress all books, maps, prints, photograp[h]s, music, and other publications of every nature whatever, deposited in the said clerk's office, and not heretofore sent to the Department of the Interior, at Washington, together with all records of copyright in his possession, including the titles so recorded, and the dates of record: *Provided*, That where there are duplicate copies of legal, scientific, or mechanical works, one copy of each may be deposited in the library of the patent office, for which a receipt shall be given by the commissioner of patents to the librarian of Congress.

Clerks of district courts to send to librarian of Congress all books, &c. deposited and now in their offices, and all records of copyrights.

Duplicate copies, how distributed.

## July 8, 1870 Copyright General Revision

- Copyright at Library of Congress
- Books to Library of Congress



1890  
The Copyright Office in the U.S. Capitol



1897  
Copyright established as separate department

**UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE**

**CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY** for **150**  
YEARS



**1898**  
Copyright deposits overwhelm  
the Jefferson Building



Early 1900s  
Copyright Office in the Jefferson Building

Copyright Office of the  
United States of America



Library of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

A<sup>1</sup>

CERTIFICATE OF COPYRIGHT REGISTRATION

**This is to Certify** (In conformity with section 55 of the Act to Amend and Consolidate the Acts respecting Copyright approved March 4, 1909, as amended by the Act approved March 2, 1913), that two copies of the BOOK named herein have been deposited in this Office under the provisions of the Act of 1909, together with the affidavit prescribed in section 16 thereof; and that registration of a claim to copyright for the first term of twenty-eight years from the date of publication of said book has been duly made in the

name of \_\_\_\_\_, claimant of copyright,  
whose address is \_\_\_\_\_; the title of  
the book registered is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ; the author is  
a citizen of \_\_\_\_\_; the date of publication  
is \_\_\_\_\_, 191 ; the date of the completion of printing is \_\_\_\_\_, 191 ;  
the affidavit was received \_\_\_\_\_, 191 ; two copies were received \_\_\_\_\_, 191 ,  
and registration has been made as Class A, XXc., No. \_\_\_\_\_.

[SEAL]

Register of Copyrights.

No. 51.

Library of Congress,  
Copyright Office,  
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR:

The book named below is asked for in the Library of Congress, and it is said to bear a notice of copyright.

Your attention is called to the fact that there is found upon the record books of the Copyright Office the entry named below, but it is not found that any copies of the work have been deposited.

If the two copies which the copyright laws require to be deposited in the Library of Congress were forwarded, please state upon what date the copies were sent. If they have not been sent, and you will forward a copy of the book, it can be placed upon the shelves of the Library for the use of the public.

Respectfully,

*Thorwald Solberg*  
Register of Copyrights.

The book to which this inquiry relates is entitled:

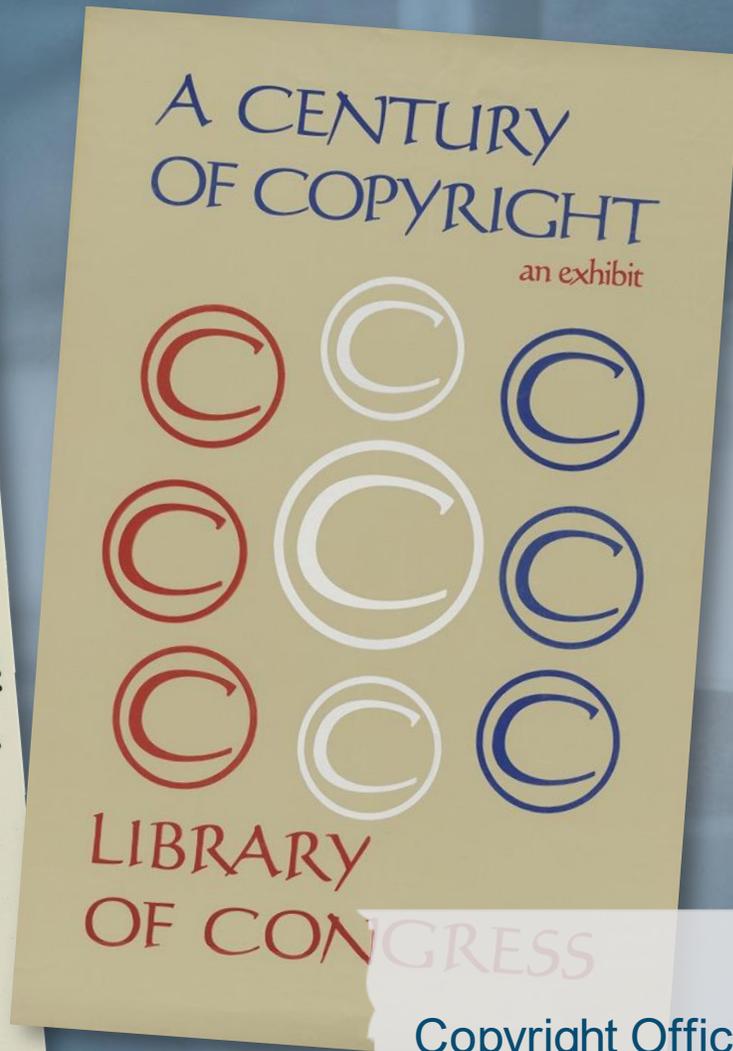
Class A, XXc, No.

Date

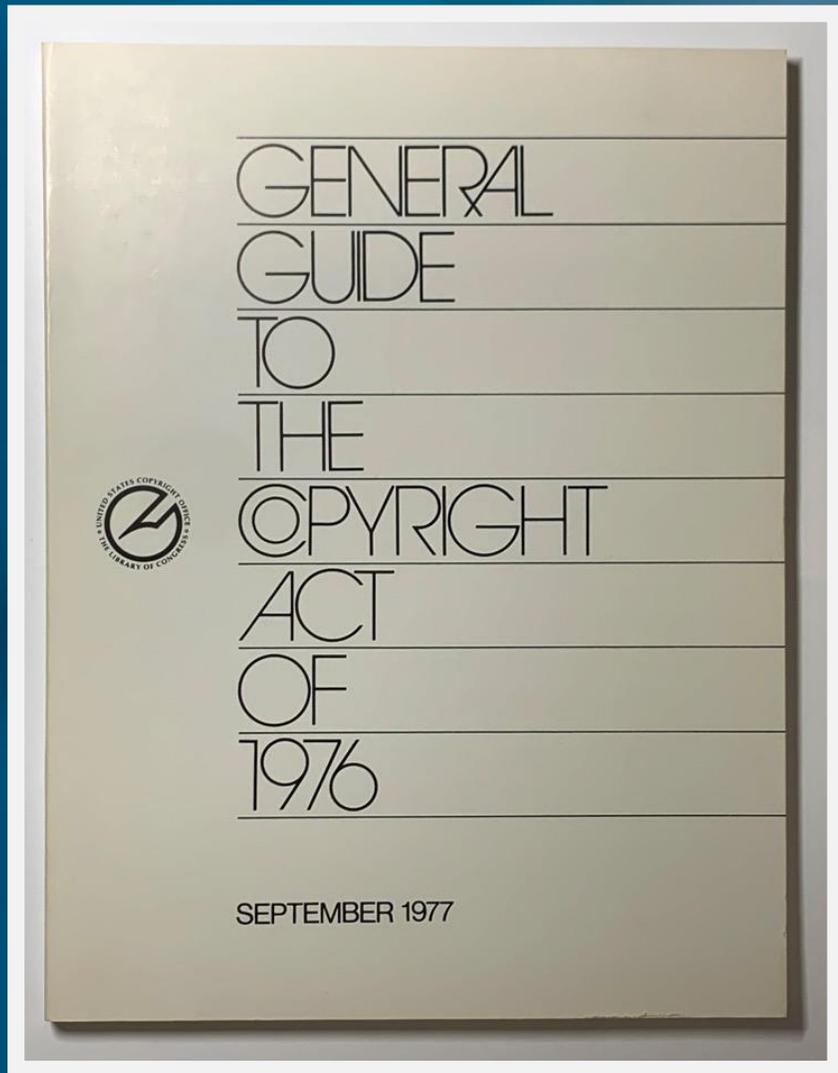
Early documents of the  
Copyright Office



1946  
Cataloging Division in the Adams Building



1970  
Copyright Office's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



**1978**  
Publication and commemoration  
apparel for Copyright Act of 1976



## United States Copyright Office

The Library of Congress

*"To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries"*  
*(U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8)*

### What's New

- [Proposed Copyright Office Fee Schedule Revision Sent to Congress February 1, 1999](#) (version: pdf)
- [Notice to Libraries and Archives of Normal Commercial Exploitation or Availability at Reasonable Price](#)
- [Promotion of Distance Education Through Digital Technologies](#)
- [Digital Millennium Copyright Act Summary](#) (version: pdf)
- [Interim procedure for designation by online service providers of agents for notification of claims of infringement](#)
- [Satellite Network Television Factsheet](#) (version: pdf)
- [New Terms for Copyright Protection](#) (version: pdf)
- [Copyright Cost Study and Fee Recommendation](#) (version: pdf)

### Welcome

[About the Copyright Office Hours of service, location and contact information](#)

### Library of Congress

Visit the Library of Congress to access information and materials from its collections.



[Library of Congress](#)

U.S. Copyright Office  
Library of Congress  
101 Independence Ave. S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

Comments: [copyinfo@loc.gov](mailto:copyinfo@loc.gov)  
02/12/99

### General Information

[Copyright Basics](#)  
[Registration Procedures](#)  
[Copyright Records](#)  
[CARP & Licensing](#)  
[CORDS](#) (Copyright Office Electronic Registration, Recordation & Deposit System)  
[Copyright Office FAQ](#)  
[Fax on Demand](#)  
[Freedom of Information Act](#)  
[NewsNet List](#)  
[Mandatory Deposit](#)  
[Service Provider Agents](#)

### Publications

[Application Forms](#)  
[Information Circulars](#)  
[Form Letters](#)  
[Compendium II Copyright Office Practices](#)  
[Office Reports](#)

### Legislation

[Copyright Law](#)  
[Federal Regulations](#)  
[New/Pending Legislation](#)  
[Digital Millennium Copyright Act Summary](#) (version: pdf)

### International

[International Copyright](#)  
[WIPO](#) (World Intellectual Property Organization) Diplomatic Conference-- Preparatory Documents  
[New Treaties](#)  
[URAA amends U.S. law](#)

### Announcements

[Federal Register Notices](#)  
[Press Releases](#)

### Copyright Links

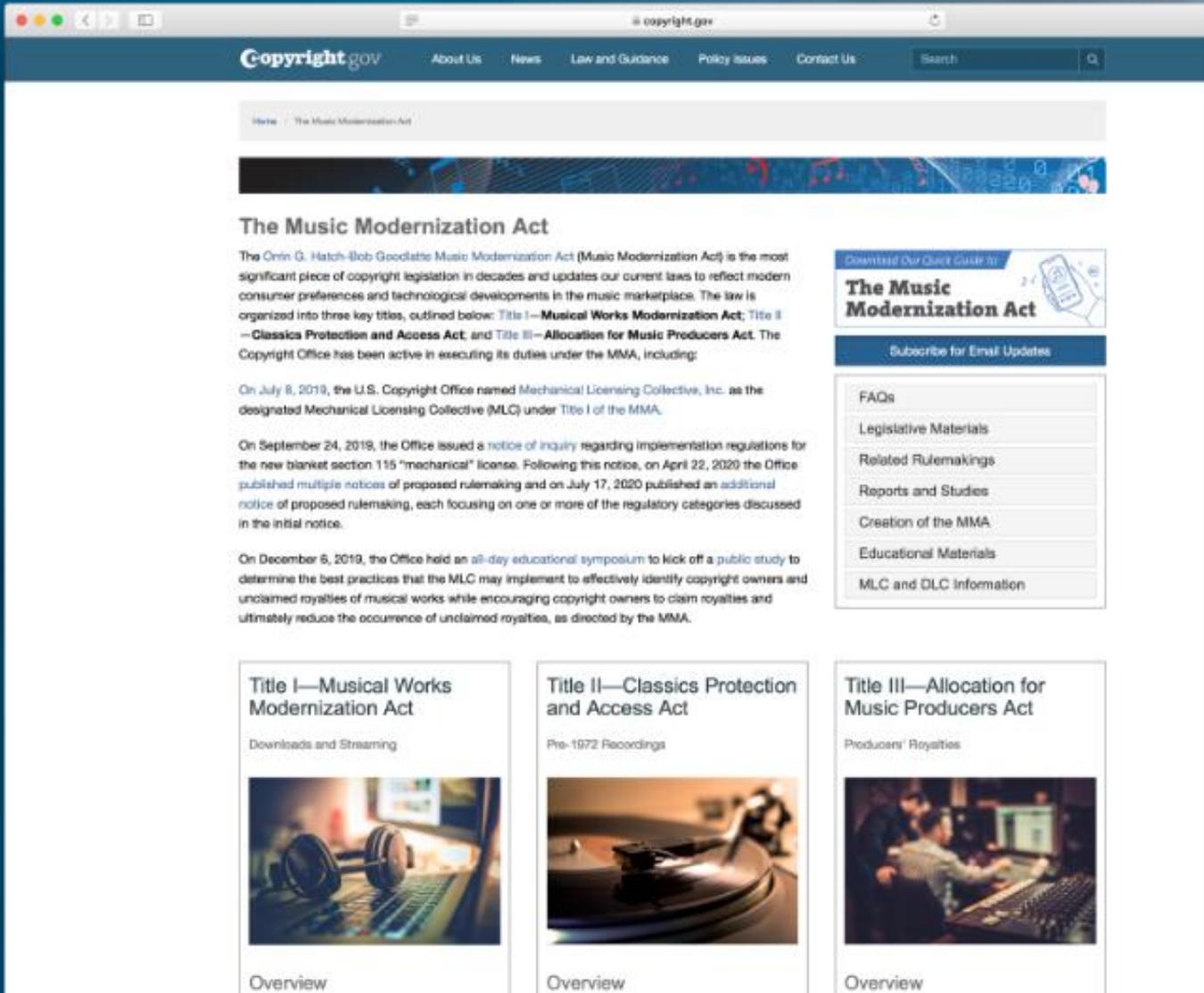
[Related Resources](#)  
[GPO Access](#) (Federal Documents)



1994  
Ed Rogers of the Copyright Office created the first version of the website, copyright.gov.



The first online registration system launched in 2007. Today, 97 percent of registration claims are made online.



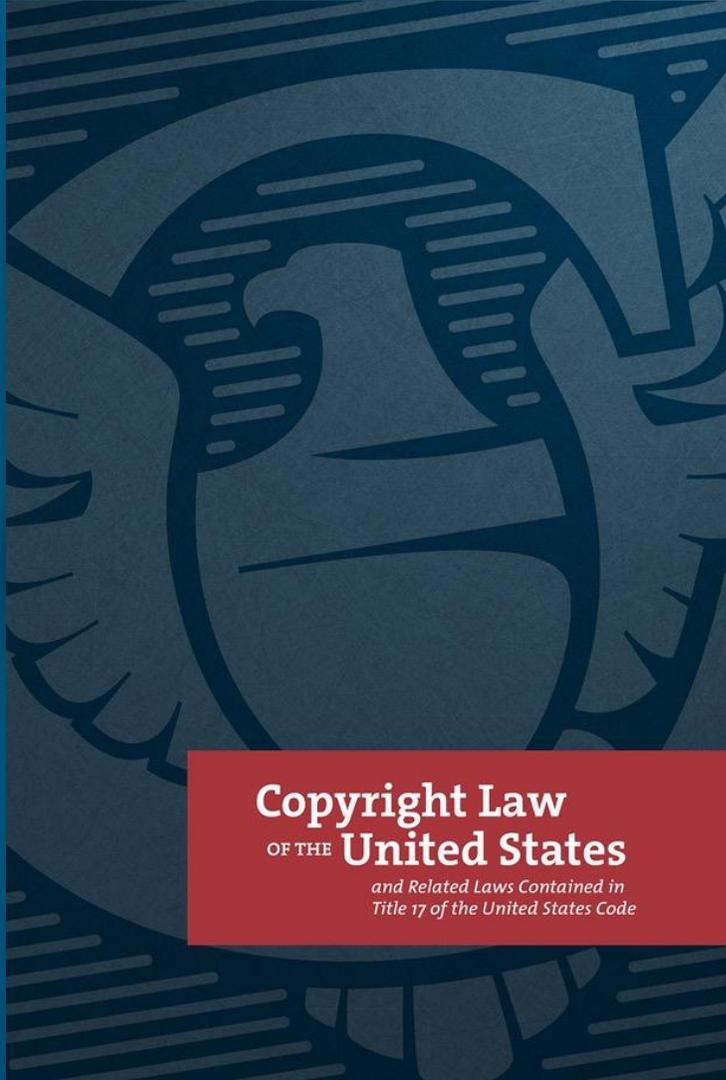
Amendments to the Copyright Act  
as a result of the  
**ORRIN G. HATCH – BOB GOODLATTE  
MUSIC MODERNIZATION ACT**

OCTOBER 2018

**2018**  
The Orrin G. Hatch – Bob Goodlatte  
Music Modernization Act, or MMA,  
was signed into law.

**UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE**

**CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY** for **150**  
YEARS



**Copyright Law**  
OF THE **United States**

*and Related Laws Contained in  
Title 17 of the United States Code*

**2020**

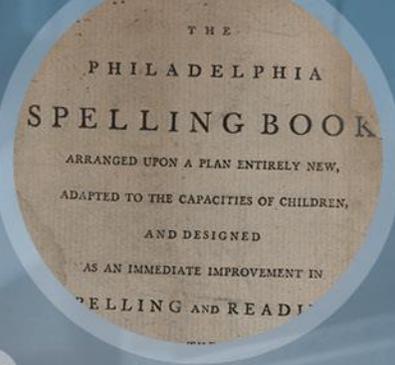
The most recent edition of the  
Copyright Law released in June 2020.

UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE

CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY *for* 150  
YEARS

# Reflections of America

1870



2020

## Copyright's bundle of rights

- To **reproduce**
- To **distribute**
- To prepare **derivative works** based upon the original
- To **perform or display** the work publicly
- To publicly perform **digital audio transmissions** of recordings
- **Proper attribution and preservation of integrity** of visual art works

T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

For a work to be protected under copyright, it must:

A<sub>1</sub>

Be original

C<sub>3</sub>

Be of professional quality

B<sub>3</sub>

Include a copyright notice

D<sub>2</sub>

Have a value of \$35



T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

For a work to be protected under copyright, it must:

A<sub>1</sub>

Be original



**T**<sub>1</sub> **R**<sub>1</sub> **I**<sub>1</sub> **V**<sub>4</sub> **I**<sub>1</sub> **A**<sub>1</sub>

A work is protected under  
copyright when:

**A**<sub>1</sub>

The author mails a  
copy of the work  
to herself

**C**<sub>3</sub>

As soon as the work is  
submitted to the Copyright  
Office

**B**<sub>3</sub>

As soon as the work is  
created and fixed  
in any format

**D**<sub>2</sub>

Once the work is published  
or displayed publicly



T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

A work is protected under  
copyright when:

B<sub>3</sub>

As soon as the work is  
created and fixed  
in any format





## Copyright registration

Registering a work is **not mandatory**.

Registration (or refusal) is necessary to **enforce copyright through litigation**.

P R E F A C E.

considered, that simplicity, joined to variety, is most pleasing to the tender mind. Experience teaches us that children are naturally fond of change even in their amusements, and we may daily observe how acceptable variety is to them in their puerile recreations. The embarrassments contained in the spelling books hitherto published, together with a long course of practice in teaching, and minute observations of the capacities and propensities of children, induced me to attempt a new arrangement of a book calculated as nearly to the understanding of children, as repeated trial joined with immediate improvement and speedy progress, did evidently ascertain. How far my plan may be acceptable to the public and teachers in general, practical experience of the book must determine: however this may be, great pains have been taken in arranging the lessons gradually, as the understanding and judgment of the children under my inspection seemed to increase.

The lessons are short, and change alternately from spelling to reading, and some of the lessons in spelling not divided, but left as an exercise for the young pupil's abilities. The reading between the spelling lessons in each page, is mostly new, and carefully chosen, both with respect to graceful language and moral subjects. Many words are admitted, particularly in the monosyllables, which may appear strange or obsolete, but let it be observed they have been used for the sake of accommodation, and are all to be found in Ash's valuable dictionary. Punctuation, in a short and comprehensive manner, is inserted; and several useful things from other books on the subject have been retained. The necessary tables of arithmetic are also added: with a copious number of select lessons, from the best authors, and on subjects most suitable, are placed at the latter end of the book.

To render the book more extensively useful, it was thought advisable to fit it in some degree, upon the plan of Sheridan's pronouncing dictionary. This has been done in all the tables of monosyllables, with respect to sound, and in the other tables of syllables, with respect to division, and still farther, through all the spelling, the silent letters are printed in Italic characters, as nearly as convenience would permit. But still it is expected some words have escaped the printer's correction. It was also deemed unnecessary to add an

THE  
PHILADELPHIA  
SPELLING BOOK

ARRANGED UPON A PLAN ENTIRELY NEW,  
ADAPTED TO THE CAPACITIES OF CHILDREN,  
AND DESIGNED

AS AN IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENT IN  
SPELLING AND READING

THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

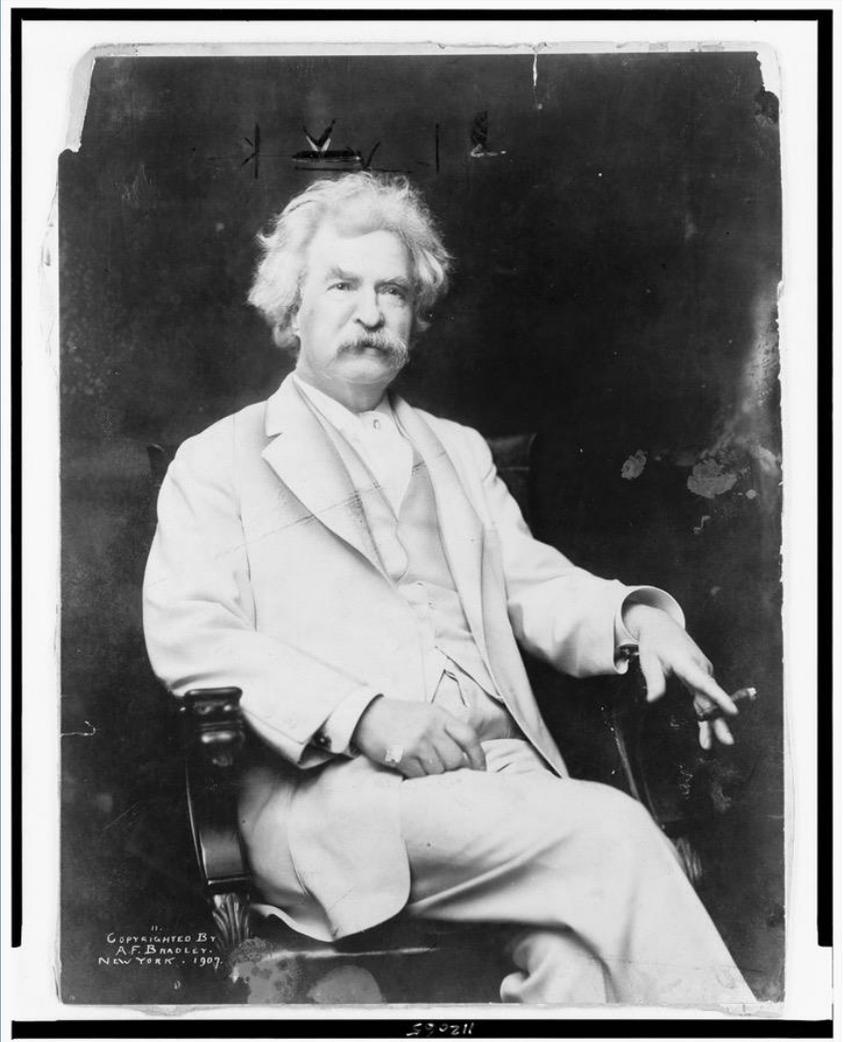
The whole being recommended by several eminent Teachers, as the most useful performance to expedite the instruction of youth.

BY JOHN BARRY, *Master of the Free School of the Protestant Episcopal Church.*

PHILADELPHIA:  
PRINTED BY JOSEPH JAMES  
M,DCC,XC.

1790

The first copyright entry, *The Philadelphia Spelling Book* by John Barry, is registered in the U.S. District Court of Pennsylvania.



Clemens (Samuel L.) Author  
Adventures of Tom Sawyer brief title  
Sawyer  
© by S. L. Clemens Cl. A, XXe, No. 7620<sup>72</sup>, 1875, 191  
The second ("reserve") copy of the above-named book is desired by the Library of Congress in accordance with the Librarian's order and the provisions of Sec. 59 of the Copyright Act of March 4, 1909 (see over).  
F. W. Ashley Chf. Order Div.  
FEB 10 1911 date.  
Above copy delivered to the Order Division on FEB 10 1911  
[Requisition for the transfer of the second ("reserve") copy of a deposited book.]

Adventures of Tom Sawyer catalog card from 1875 and Mark Twain at a congressional hearing on a copyright reform bill in 1906

T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

What is the largest thing the  
Copyright Office has registered?

A<sub>1</sub>

Brooklyn Bridge

C<sub>3</sub>

Statue of Liberty

B<sub>3</sub>

St. Louis Arch

D<sub>2</sub>

Disney Castle



T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

What is the largest thing the  
Copyright Office has registered?



C<sub>3</sub>

Statue of Liberty



Alcott, Louisa May, 1832-1888.

Little women; or, Meg, Jo, Beth and Amy. By Louisa  
M. Alcott. Boston, Roberts brothers [1880]

xvi, 586 p. front. (port.) illus., plates. 21½<sup>cm</sup>.

i. Title.

Library of Congress  
Copyright 1880: 17076

12-10052



1880  
Copyright catalog card of *Little Women*  
by Louisa May Alcott

T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

What is the first motion picture registered with the Copyright Office?

A<sub>1</sub>

*Horse in Motion,*  
Eadweard Muybridge  
(1886)

C<sub>3</sub>

*The Sneeze,*  
Thomas Edison  
(1894)

B<sub>3</sub>

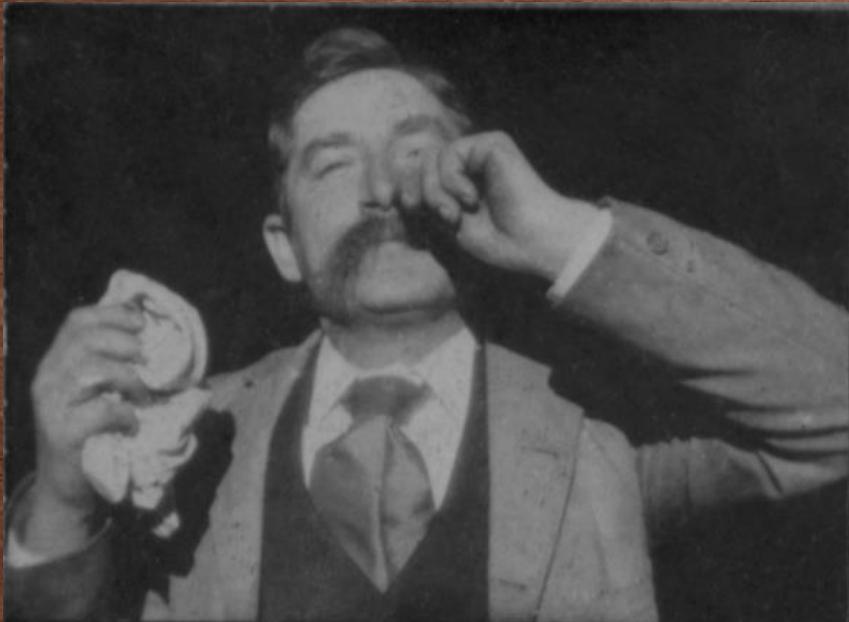
*Men Boxing,*  
William K. L. Dickson and  
William Heise (1891)

D<sub>2</sub>

*Santa Claus,*  
George Albert Smith  
(1898)

# TRIVIA

What is the first motion picture registered with the Copyright Office?



C<sub>3</sub>

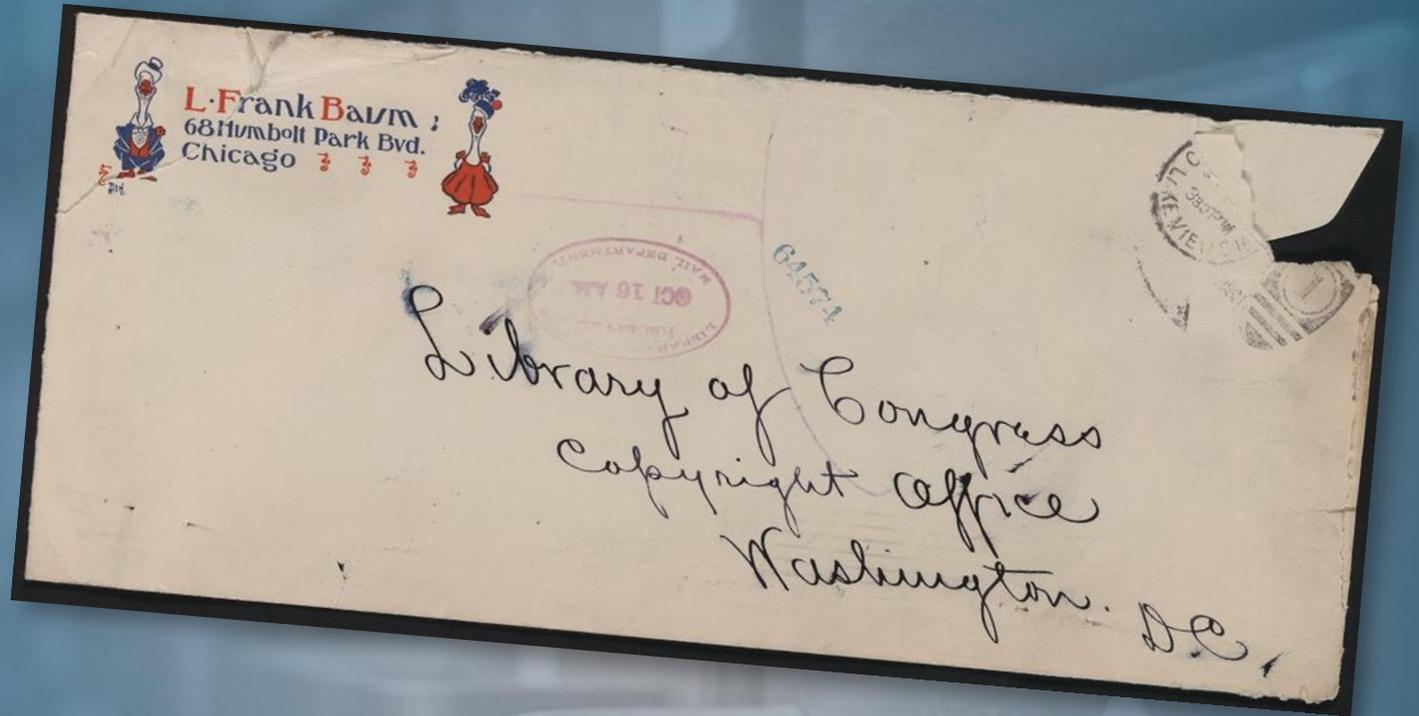
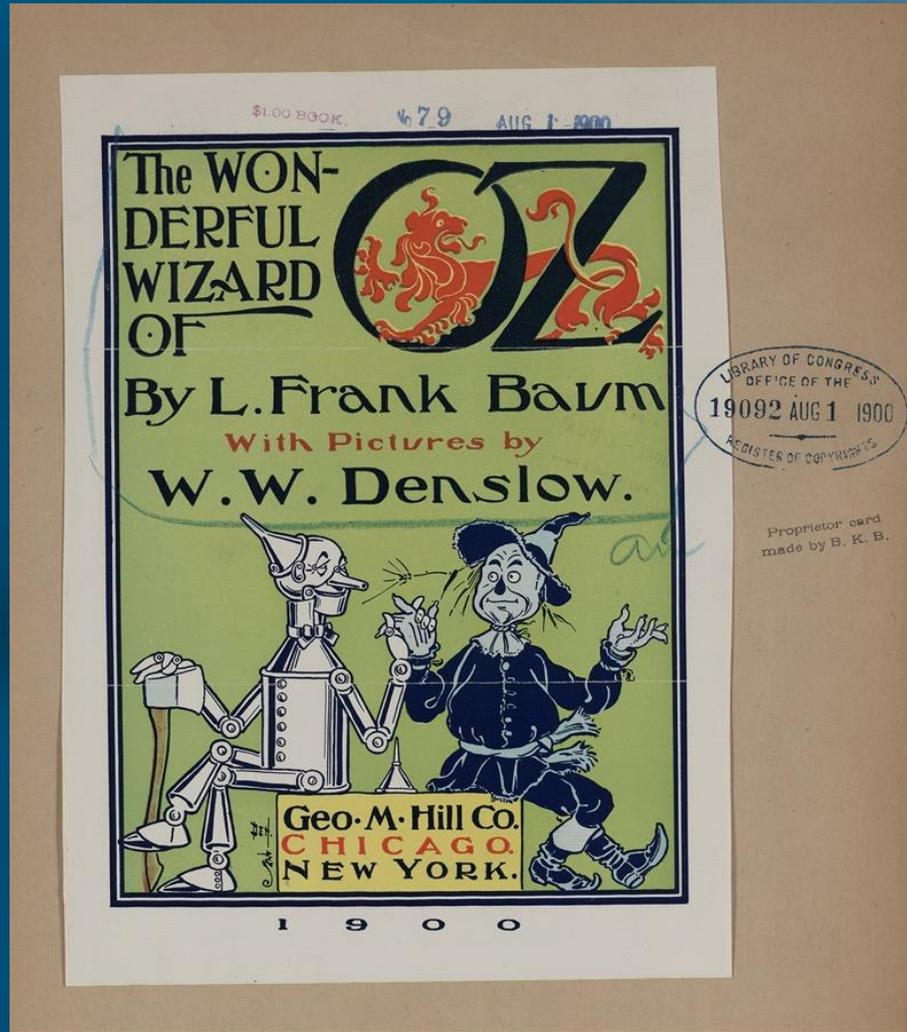
*The Sneeze*,  
Thomas Edison  
(1894)





**1898**  
Copyright deposit of the *Stars and Stripes  
Forever*, written in 1897 by John Philip Sousa

CINCINNATI, NEW YORK, CHICAGO, LEIPSIK



**1900**  
Copyright deposit of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by  
L. Frank Baum. It spawned a popular Broadway  
musical in 1902 and an iconic film in 1939.



1961

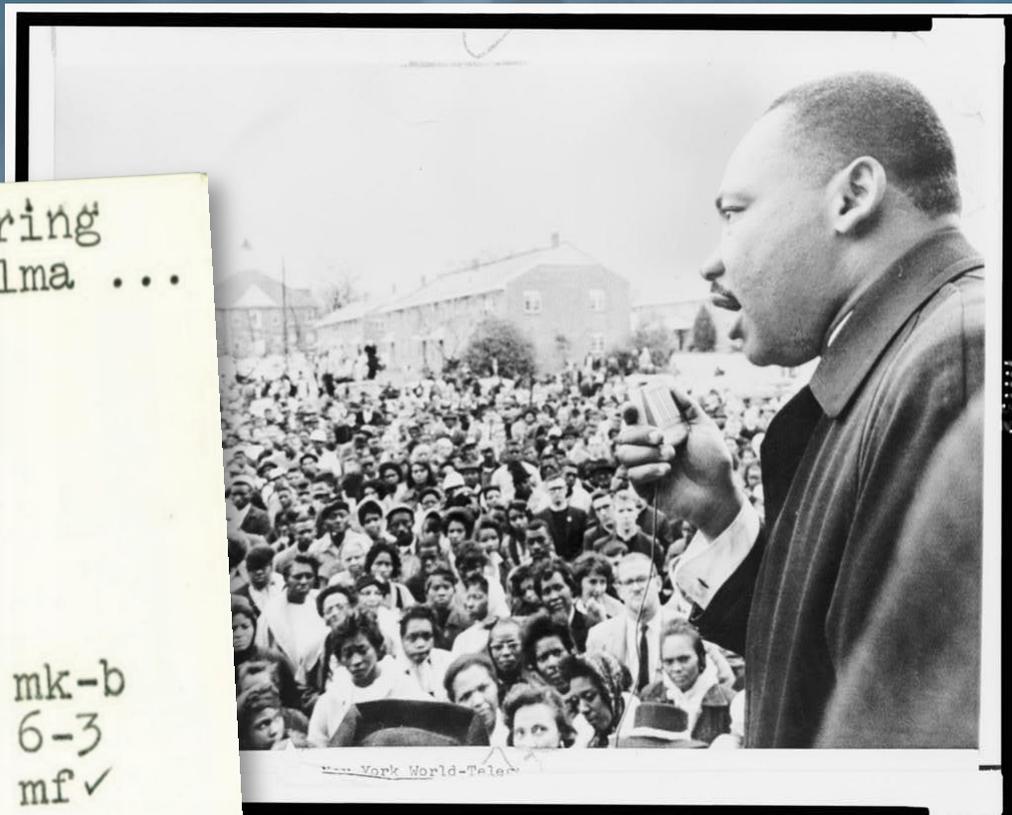
*The Consul*, the first video tape  
registered for copyright

Address ... delivered March 25, 1965, during  
ceremonies at the conclusion of the Selma ...  
KING, MARTIN LUTHER, JR.  
Address ... delivered March 25, 1965,  
during ceremonies at the conclusion  
of the Selma to Montgomery march.  
9 p. © Martin Luther King, Jr.;  
13May65; A764468.

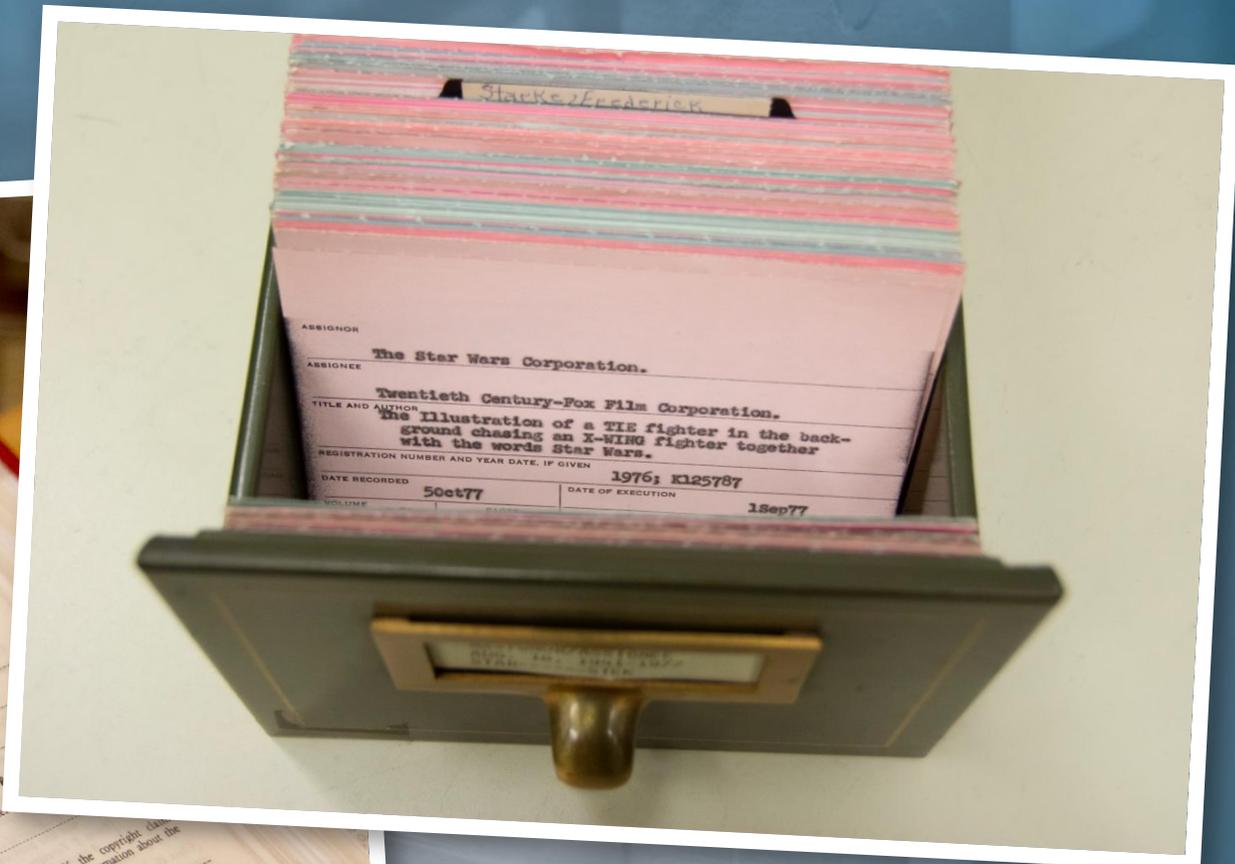
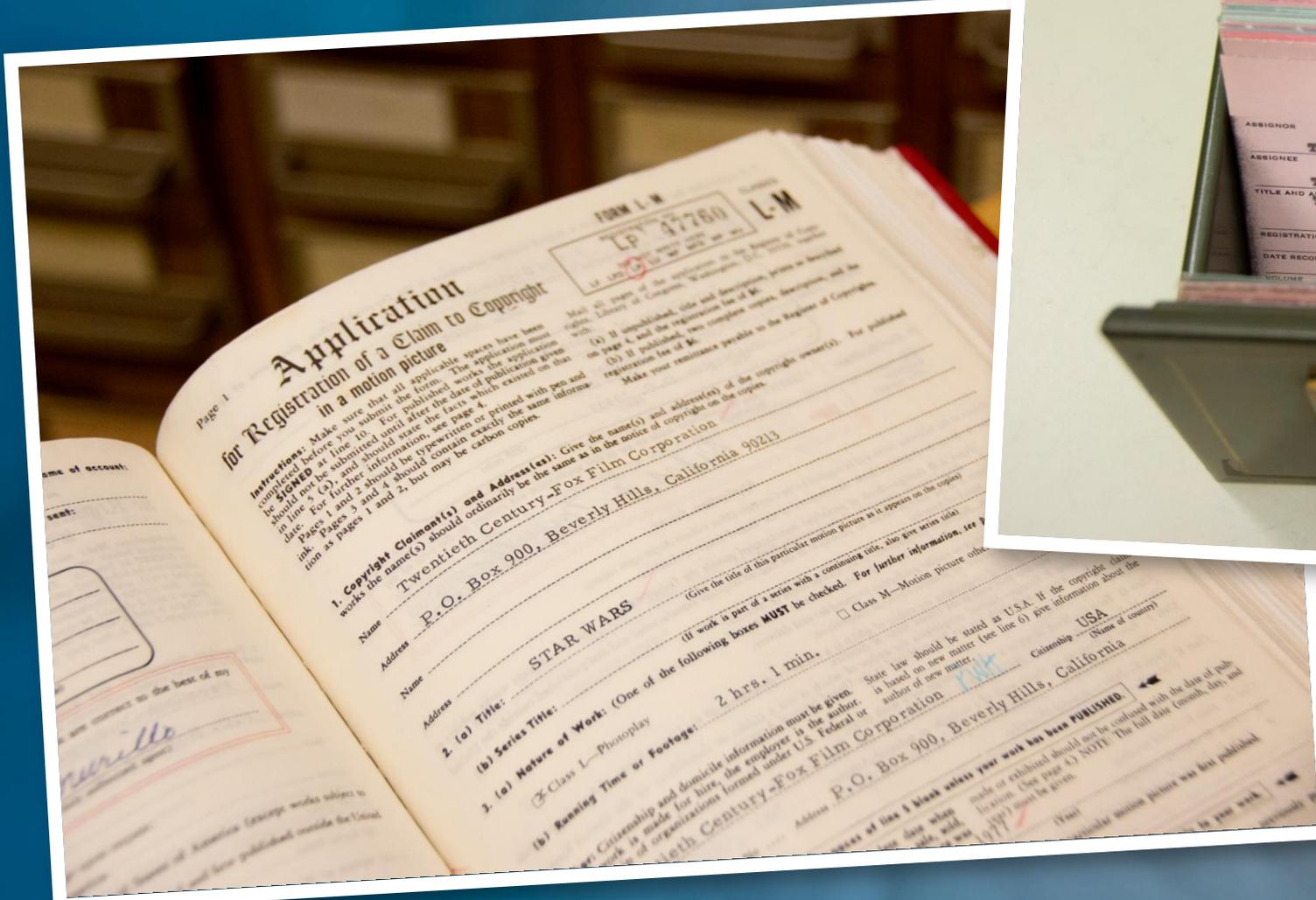
1. Title.

mk-b  
6-3  
mf ✓

RECUT  
11Aug65  
65-1



**1965**  
Catalog card for Dr. Martin Luther  
King, Jr.'s speech at the conclusion  
of the Selma to Montgomery march



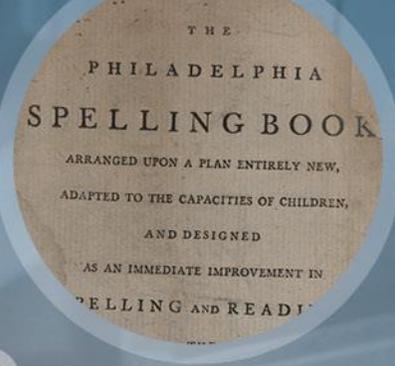
1976  
Star Wars registration document  
and catalog card

UNITED STATES  
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CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY *for* 150  
YEARS

# Copyright Office Today

1870



2020

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The U.S. Copyright Office **promotes creativity** and free expression by administering the nation's copyright laws and by providing impartial, expert advice on copyright law and policy, for the benefit of all.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

Enriching the nation's culture by empowering and connecting the global copyright community.

Registered  
443,911  
claims  
for copyright

Recorded nearly  
7,098 documents  
for over 233,694  
works

170,600  
public  
inquiries

Transferred  
\$45 million  
worth of  
copyright  
deposits to  
Library  
collections

Collected  
more than  
\$237 million  
in royalty  
fees;  
managed  
over  
\$1.4 billion

**UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE**

**CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY** *for* **150**  
YEARS

## The Strategic Path Forward



**T**<sub>1</sub> **R**<sub>1</sub> **I**<sub>1</sub> **V**<sub>4</sub> **I**<sub>1</sub> **A**<sub>1</sub>

The Copyright Office's Strategic Plan references the "Engine of Free Expression." Where did that phrase come from?

**A**<sub>1</sub>

U.S. Constitution

**C**<sub>3</sub>

President Ulysses S. Grant

**B**<sub>3</sub>

Harper & Row Publishers, Inc. v. Nation Enterprises

**D**<sub>2</sub>

H.R. 94-1476  
(House of Representatives Report on the 1976 Act)

T<sub>1</sub> R<sub>1</sub> I<sub>1</sub> V<sub>4</sub> I<sub>1</sub> A<sub>1</sub>

The Copyright Office's Strategic Plan references the "Engine of Free Expression." Where did that phrase come from?

B<sub>3</sub>

Harper & Row Publishers, Inc. v. Nation Enterprises





**Information  
Technology  
Modernization**



**Organizational  
Change  
Management**



**Impartial  
Expertise on  
Copyright Law  
and Policy**



**Optimizing  
Business  
Processes**



**Education  
and  
Engagement**



**Measuring  
Success**

**UNITED STATES  
COPYRIGHT OFFICE**

**CELEBRATING  
CREATIVITY for 150  
YEARS**



Current Copyright Office in  
the Madison Building

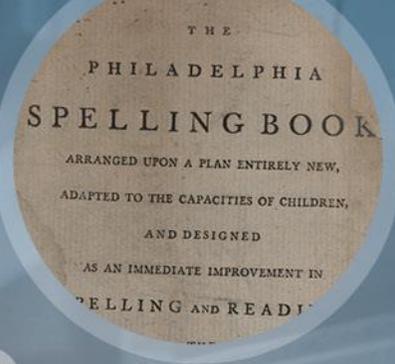
## Videos on YouTube

- What Is Copyright?
- Copyright on the Internet
- Hey, That's My Idea!
- Copyright Registration
- Understanding Fair Use
- What Is Public Domain?
- Music Modernization in Two Minutes



# Questions & Answers

1870

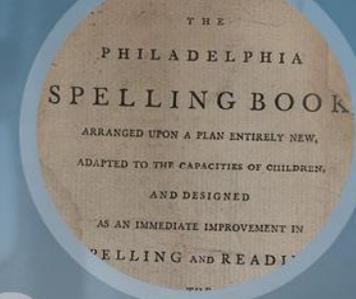


2020

**Copyright** office  
PRESENTS

Celebrating  
**150 YEARS OF  
CREATIVITY**

1870



2020